



FEMA

Disaster News

June 9, 2004

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SIX ADDITIONAL NORTH DAKOTA COUNTIES RECEIVE DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR SPRING FLOODING

(BISMARCK) – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and North Dakota state officials announced today that disaster assistance is now available to six additional North Dakota counties in response to severe storms and flooding beginning March 26, 2004, and continuing.

The designation means that local jurisdictions and certain private non-profit organizations in Bottineau, Burke, Mountrail, Renville, Towner, and Ward Counties are eligible to apply for federal public assistance.

The addition of these six counties brings the total to 16 counties and one reservation designated to receive federal assistance under the major disaster declaration signed by President Bush May 5, 2004, following a request by Gov. John Hoeven. Counties previously declared include the Spirit Lake Nation and Benson, Cavalier, Grand Forks, Griggs, Nelson, Pembina, Ramsey, Steele, Traill, Walsh Counties.

Public assistance reimburses state, local and tribal governments for part of the cost to repair or restore storm-damaged public infrastructure, and for emergency protective measures needed to respond to the event. Public assistance operates on a cost-share basis with 75 percent federal share, 10 percent state share and 15 percent local share.

On March 1, 2003, FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. FEMA's continuing mission within the new department is to lead the effort to prepare the nation for all hazards and effectively manage federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates proactive mitigation activities, trains first responders, and manages Citizens Corps, the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration.

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